

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02 ACDA-07
L-03 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 IGA-02 TRSE-00 /068 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:JRRATIGAN:VSS

APPROVED BY EUR:REBARBOUR

PM/SAS:ASKOCHANNEK

EUR/SE:NCLEDSKY

-----030316 124890 /73

P 030043Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 046695

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, GR

SUBJECT: GREEK ARMS PURCHASES

REF: (A) CJUSMAG ATHENS MSG DTG 271330Z OCT 76; (B) CJUSMAG
MSG DTG 281215Z FEB 77

1. GREEK EMBASSY RECENTLY REQUESTED STATUS REPORT FROM
DEPT ON PURCHASE 18 F-4E AIRCRAFT (COST:APPROX DOLS 160
MILLION) NOTED REF A. GOG IS NOW TRYING CONVERT LETTER
OF INTENT SIGNED WITH MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS OCT 1976 TO FMS
TRANSACTION. USG REGULATIONS, HOWEVER, REQUIRE ADMINIS-
TRATION APPROVAL OF PROPOSED SALE AND COMPLETION OF 30-
DAY CONGRESSIONAL WAITING PERIOD BEFORE FMS CONTRACT CAN
BE SIGNED.

2. DEPTOFF INFORMED GREEK EMBASSY MAR 1 THAT SALE WAS ONE
OF MANY AWAITING WHITE HOUSE APPROVAL AS ADMINISTRATION
REVIEWS OVERALL US POLICY ON ARMS SALES. TWO OTHER GREEK
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PURCHASES ALSO INVOLVED IN USG REVIEW: 82 TOW MISSILE
LAUNCHERS (COST: APPROX DOLS 15 MILLION) AND 10 CH-47
"CHINOOK" HELICOPTERS (COST: APPROX DOLS 60 MILLION).

3. DEPTOFF ADVISED GREEK EMBASSY THAT WHILE WE HAVE NO
REASON TO EXPECT UNFAVORABLE DECISION, WE CANNOT PREDICT

WHEN A DECISION MIGHT COME OR THAT IT WOULD NECESSARILY BE FAVORABLE. DEPTOFF ASSURED GREEK EMBASSY DEPT WOULD DO WHATEVER IT COULD TO ENSURE POLICY REVIEW IS COMPLETED PROMPTLY.

4. IF CASES ARE APPROVED, THEY WILL BE FORWARDED TO CONGRESS FOR STATUTORY 30-DAY WAITING PERIOD. LETTER OF INTENT SIGNED BY GOG WITH MACAIR PROVIDES MAR 31 DEADLINE FOR CONVERSION TO FMS CONTRACT, BUT ALSO PERMITS EXTENSION OF DEADLINE. SINCE CONGRESSIONAL WAITING PERIOD NOT LIKELY BE COMPLETED BY MAR 31, DEPTOFF SUGGESTED GOG MAY, IF IT HAS NOT ALREADY DONE SO, WISH TO DISCUSS WITH MACAIR THE POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF MAR 31 DEADLINE.

5. FYI: EIGHT RF-4E AIRCRAFT WHICH GOG AGREED TO PURCHASE IN OCT 1976 LOI HAVE COMPLETED CONGRESSIONAL WAITING PERIOD, AND WERE NOT SUBJECT OF GREEK EMBASSY INQUIRY. END FYI.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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